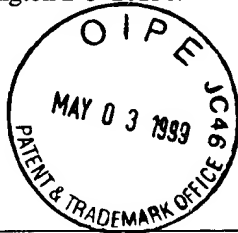


CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 CFR 1.8a)

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington DC 20231.



Date: April 29, 1999

W. Scott McNees
(Print Name)

W. Scott McNees
(Signature)

CASE DOCKET 9397

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

Russell G. Higuchi

Group: 1743

Serial No. 08/968,208 filed November 12, 1997

Examiner: J. Snay

For: **HOMOGENEOUS METHODS FOR NUCLEIC ACID AMPLIFICATION AND DETECTION**

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

RECEIVED
MAY 26 1999
GROUP 1700

BOX: Fee Amendment
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington DC 20231

Sir:

Applicants hereby respectfully petition for a three-month extension of time to file a response to the Office Action of October 30, 1998. This petition is for a first extension of time originally set for response, that is, January 30, 1999. With the granting of this request, the time for response is April 30, 1999.

Please charge Deposit Account No. 50-0812 in the amount of \$870.00 for the fee due under 37 CFR 1.17 for this petition. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fee or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0812. This petition is submitted in triplicate.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: April 29, 1999

W. Scott McNees
W. Scott McNees
Attorney for Applicant(s)
Reg. No. 33,964
Gibbons, Del Deo, Dolan, Griffinger
& Vecchione
One Riverfront Plaza
Newark NJ 07102-5497
Tel: (973) 596-4825
Fax: (973) 639-6267

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